

## NO. 101.

**MEDICINAL.**

# Alexandria Gazette

ACIDITY OF THE GASTRIC JUICE IN MAN.—Dr. Charles Richez read a paper before the French Academy of Sciences recently in which he treated of the acidity of the gastric juice in man. For some time Professor Vernet had a young patient under his care who labored under the strange affection of having his oesophagus, or upper extremity of the alimentary canal, so contracted as to render the passage not only of food or drink, but even of an instrument, quite impossible. The professor had recourse to gastrostomy, an operation until then considered mortal, but which in this case succeeded perfectly. An incision made in the stomach and kept open artificially has been transformed into a regular fistula, through which food and drink are administered; and in this state the young man not only lives, but is a useful servant of the hospital.

Dr. Richez, having devoted particular atten-

tion to this subject and examined the working of the stomach day by day, through the fistula. In question, last week communicated the results obtained to the academy. They are as follows:

(1.) The average acidity of gastric juice, whether pure or mixed with food, is equal to 1.7 grammes of hydrochloric acid per 1,000 of liquid. It has never been observed to be lower than 0.5 or higher than 3.2. (2.) The quantity of liquid contained in the stomach exercises no in-

fluence on its acidity, which remains nearly invariable, whether the stomach be empty or filled with aliment. (3.) Wine and alcohol increase the acidity of the stomach; cane sugar diminishes it. (4.) If acids or alkaline liquids be injected the gastric ones tend rapidly to resume their normal acidity, so that, about an hour after the injection, the stomach has regained its average acidity. (5.) The gastric juices are more acid during digestion than before.

after. (6.) There is a slight increase of acidity toward the end of digestion. (7.) The sensations of hunger and thirst do not depend either on the state of acidity or on that of vacuity of the stomach. Such are the results as to acidity, but there are a few others of some interest. Thus fecula, fat and meat stay in the stomach for three or four hours, milk is digested in the course of an hour and a half; water

SLENDER REWARD OF LITERARY LABOR.—Bayard Taylor, in a letter to the editor of the Cincinnati Commercial, says:

Independently rich can possibly respond to the claims made upon him—and that wealth is never attained in this country, or perhaps any other, by the highest, purest and most permanent form of literary labor—you will do a real service to our guild. Emerson is now seventy-four years old, and his last volume is the only one which has approached a remunerative sale. Bryant is in his eighty-third year, and he could not buy a modest house with all he ever re-

lived in his life from his poems. Washington Irving was nearly seventy years old before the sale of his works at home met the expenses of his simple life at Sunnyside. He never had no reason to complain of the remuneration formerly derived from those works which I know to possess slight literary value. But the translation of "Faust," to which he gave all my best and freshest leisure during a period of six or seven years, has only yielded

about as much as a fortnight's lecturing. I have spent two or three years in collecting the material and making the preparatory studies for a new biography of Goethe, and I have been waiting two years longer for the fitting leisure to begin the work. In order to undertake it I must own my time in advance. No matter how successful it might be considered, it could not possibly bring me more than a tithe of the amount which drudgery for the markets

**GIPSY VOCALISTS IN MOSCOW.**—An amusing anecdote is told of Miss. Heilbronn during her late engagement at Moscow. One day she had the curiosity to go and hear some famous gipsy vocalists perform. She was seated in the

happy singers who were giving their concert in a restaurant—a sort of Winter garden outside the city, and which was frequented by the best society. She was accompanied by Mme. Milioutoff, Tarnowski, Waltz, Senor Corsi, and the baritone Struzzi. The Bohemians sang, accompanying themselves on seven-stringed guitars. The prima-donna was greatly delighted, asked to have some of the pieces repeated, and finally went and kissed the prince.

theater vocalist. "Who is that lady?" asked the waiter of M. Tarnowski. "It is Mile. Hebronn, the star of the Italian opera." "We have not yet heard of her," returned the gipsy, "but unfortunately we cannot go to hear her, as we have to perform here every evening. Ask her to sing us something. She looks amiable and good-natured, and I am sure she will consent." Mile. Hebronn acceded to the wish, and, sitting down to the piano, gave us French the

of Margottina, by Lind. The effect on the gipsies was indescribable; they were all ears, and appeared not only to understand the music, but the sense of the words. Mlle. Heibronn sang again, and received quite an ovation. The two Italian singers followed the example of the diva, and the evening, which had commenced with the simple airs of the gipsies, ended by becoming a real concert given by the three artists of the Italian opera.

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**NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.**

**H. JACOBS**  
Desires to inform the public that he has again taken possession of his old stand, next door to the Gazette office, on Prince street, and will be happy to see all of his former patrons and anybody else who wants a pleasant and artistic SHAVE or HAIR CUT. jan 30-11

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